

Jan. 20, 2017

Dear Parents,



We will celebrate the Third Week in Ordinary Time this Sunday. The theme this week turns to Jesus' ministry and actions after many weeks of exploring who Jesus is: **The light!** Our readings are filled with images of light and darkness. The image of Jesus as the light that dispels the darkness is visibly seen in what he does and how he acts. Jesus begins His public ministry with the words, "repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand". Matthew says Peter and Andrew left their nets at once and James and John their boat. A disciple's response to God's call is to obediently follow Christ who is the Lord of light! Our lives are meaningless if we do not reflect what we teach. The greatest gift we can offer those we serve is showing them our light of Christ from within. Let us continue to allow our faith to illumine the lives of those we meet each day. May our light ignite the faith of others!. Let us live and teach the values of the Kingdom of Heaven!



PAPERWORK: The packet for next year is included in this week's envelope. Once, all the paperwork is completed, please return everything and include the registration fee. The only paperwork that has been requested at this time, was your intent to return for next year. Please return that on Monday if you have not done so already. Thank you to those who sent in the \$300.00 with your intent to return, but it was not required until you submitted all the registration paperwork. **All registrations for next year must be in by March 3, 2017.** This will assure you of your child's place here for the 2017-2018 school year. In the opening of the new school year, all other paperwork will be sent home. Please note that on the checklist the emergency card is listed to be returned. We are not including it in this week's envelope. Since people's information changes frequently, we will also wait until August to send it home to keep our information as current as possible.



TUITION: You will notice we have kept the cost of next year's increase to a bare minimum. With only \$150.00 increase for the year, with the school year of 180 days; it is less than \$1.00 a day! It is my hope that this will make it affordable for you and your family. All I ask is that you continue to spread the good word to your friends and family so more children will be able to benefit from the Catholic education here at St. Mary's.

FINANCIAL AID: We have been notified that our current program of PSAS has now been acquired by FACTS Management. It will basically be the same type of information needed, and will all be done online. To be considered for financial aid for next year, all parents applying must be totally caught up with past tuition balances. Anyone currently delinquent in tuition payments will NOT be considered for aid. As always, do not hesitate to submit an application for financial aid. We will help as much as possible. Our aim is to keep families here.



PERMISSION SLIPS – During Catholic schools Week all the students in Grades K-8 will be going to the Energize CT. Center in North Haven. Please fill out the permission slip with all the information required by Jan.31st. There is no cost for this trip.





SUPERINTENDENT'S VISIT: On Jan. 25th we will welcome Dr. Michael Griffin, our new Superintendent for the Hartford Archdiocese, who is touring the school and will be introduced to the faculty and student body. In his new position, Dr. Griffin is visiting as many of the schools as he can, to become acquainted with the school communities and the work being accomplished throughout the Archdiocese.

RETURN: I am happy to announce that Mrs. Delahunt will be returning on Wed. Jan.25th. She has had a successful surgery and has been given the go ahead to return to work. We thank Mr. John Pirtel who was our substitute during this time while Mrs. Delahunt was on medical leave.

FROM MRS MASTRIANO: Thank you very much for all your beautiful cards and prayers. I appreciate your kindness. I am happy to be back in the office. Sincerely, Mrs. Mastriano.

LAST WEEKEND FOR TOURNAMENT: Help is still needed. If you can help in any way, contact Mr. Scussel. Remember, if we want our sports program to continue here, we need to find someone who will step up as our school Athletic Director. Contact me if you, or someone you might know, would like to interview for the position. This position is not for the entire Diocese, just for our school.

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK: Next week's packet will contain the schedule for Catholic School's Week.

God bless you,

Sr. Annette

